TO MRS. JAMES K. POLK. BY MRS. ANN S STEPHENS. Lady, had I the wealth of earth To offer freely at thy shrine, Bright gold and buds of dewy birth, Or gems from out the teeming mine, A thousand things most beautiful, All sparkling, precious, rich, and rare, These hands would render up to thee— Thou noble lady, good and fair ! For as I write, sweet thoughts arise Of times when all thy kindness lent

A thousand hues of Paradise To the fleet moments as they went: Then all thy thoughts were wing'd with light; And every smile was calm and sweet, And thy low tones and gentle words Made the warm heart's blood thrill

There, standing in our nation's home, My memory ever pictures thee
As some bright dame of ancient Rome, Modest, yet all a queen should be. I love to keep thee in my mind,
Thus mated with the pure of old, When love, with lofty deeds combind, Made women great and warriors bold. When first I saw thee standing there.

And left the pressure of thy hand, I scarcely thought it thou wert fair, Or of the highest in the land; I knew thee gentle-pure as great,
All that was lovely, meek, and good; And so I half forgot thy state In love of thy bright womanhood.

And many a sweet sensation came, That lingers in my bosom yet, Like that celestial, holy flame That we als tremble to torget: And on the earth, or in the sky,

There's not a thought more true and free Than that which beats within my heart, In pleasant memory of thee,

Lady, I gladly would have brought ome gem that on thy heart may live, But this poor wreath of woven thought Is all the wealth I have to give. All wer with hear-dew, tresh with love I lay the garlant at thy feet, Praying the angel forms above
T - we we there one more pure and sweet

MISUELLANEOUS. IMPORTANTLE CTER FROM MR. CLAY His views on the Subject of Slavery and Plan of

Emancipatum. New Orleans, Feb 17, 1849. Dear Sir-Prior to my departure from hom in December last, in behalf of yourself and other friends, you obtained from me a promise to make a public exposition of my views and printions npon a grave and important question which, it was then anticipated, would be much debated and considered by the people of Ken.ucky, during this year, in consequence of the approaching Convention, summoned to amend the present Constitution. I was not entirely well when I left home, and owing to that cause, and my confinement several weeks, during my sojourn in this city, from the effects of an accident which of my promise, which I now propose to exe-

The question, to which I allude, is whether African Slavery, as it now exists in Kemucky, ahali be lett to a perpetual or indefinite continu-ance, or some provision shall be made, in the new Constitution, for its gradual and ultimate extinc i m?

A few general observations will suffice my present purpose, without entering on the whole subject of slavery, under all its bearings and in every aspect of it. I am aware that there are respeciable persons who believe that slavery is a blessing, that the institution ought to exist in every well organized society, and that it is even favorable to the preservation of liberty. Happily, the number wno entertain these extravagant opinions is not very great, and the time would be uselessly occupied in an elaborate relutation of them. I would, however, remark that, if slavery be fraught with these alleged benefits, the principle on which it is maintained, would require that one portion of the white race should be reduced to bondage to serve another portion of the same rale, when black subjects of slavery could not be ob ained; and that in Africa, where they may entertain as great a preference for their color as we do for ours, they would be justified in reducing the white race to slavery, in order to secure the blessings which that state is said to

An argument, in support of reducing the A! rican race to slavery, is sometimes derived from their alleged intellectual interiority to the white races; but, it this argumen be founded in fact, (as it may be, but which I shall not now exam ine,) it would prove entirely too much. It would prove that any white nation, which had made visdom than another white nation, would have a right to reduce the latter to a state of bondage -Nay further, if the principle of subjugation tounded upon intellectual superiority be true, and be applicable to races and to nations, what is to prevent its being applied to individuals? And then the wisest man in the world would have a

right to make slaves of all the rest of mankind! It, indeed, we possess this intellectual superi-ority, protoundly grateful and thankful to HIM who has bestowed it, we ought to tuifill all the obligations and duties which it imposes; and these would require us not to subjugate or deal unjustly by our fellow men who are less blessed than we are, but to instruct, to improve and enlighten them.

A vast majority of the people of the United States, in every section of them, I believe, tegret the introduction of slavery into the colonies, under the authority of our British ancestors, lames that a single slave treads our soil, deplore the ne cessity of the continuance of slavery in any the States, regard the institution as a great evil; both races and would rejuice in the adoption any safe, just and practicable plan for the remval of all slaves from among us. Hitherio such satisfactory plan has been presented. When on the occasion of the formation of our presen Constitution of Kentucky, in 1799, the ques the gradual emancipation of slavery in that State was agitated, as fri ads had to encounter a great obstacle, in the fact that there then existed no extablished colony, to which they could be transport flourishing cotonies on the Western coast of Af rica, that difficulty has been obviated. And feelings of superscition, it does seem to me that may have been among the dispensations of Pr vidence to permit the wrongs, under which Afri ca has suffered, to be inflicted, that her child er might be returned to their original home, civilized imbued with the besign spirit of Christianity, and prepared ultimately to refer in that great Conti-

Without undertaking to judge for any other State, it was my opinion in 1799 that Kentucky was in a c ndition to admit of the gradual emancipation of her slaves, and how deeply do I lament that a system, with that object, had not been then established! If it has been, the State would now be nearly rid of all slaves. My opinion has never changed, and I have frequently publicly expressed it. I should be most napovif what was impracticable at that epoch could now be accomplished

After ull and delicerate consideration of the subject, it appears to me that three principles should regulate the establishment of a system of gradual emuncipation. The first is, that it should be slow in its operation, cauti us and gradual, so as to occasion no convulsion, nor be removed from the State to some colony - nation a little more than twenty-four nours And, third y, that the expenses of their trans portation to such colony meluting an outfit for

Nothing could e more unwise than the immeduration; and the work of their removal from the U Sales can only be effected after the lapse of a great length of time.

born alt I it should be tree at a specified age, all born before it remaining slaves for life. That system, if adopted, I incline to a liberal margin, so as to oviate as many objections, and to unit as many opinions as possible. Whether the commencement of the operation of the system be a little eartier or later, it is not so important as that a day should be permanently fixed, from which final termination of slavery within the limits of

be liable afterwards to be hired out, under the authorivy of the State, for a term not exceeding

nitely as to time, it is manifest that slavery would ] e free at twenty-five, should be free from their birth, but upon the condition that they should be apprenticed until they were twenty one and be also alterwards liable to be hired out, a period and their subsistence for the first six months. The Pennsylvania system of emancipation fixed the period of twenty-eight for the liberation

were from their births free. The Pennsylvania system made no provision for Colonization. Until the commencement of the system which I extent, ought to remain unimpaired and unrestricted. Consequently they would have the right o sell, devise or remove them from the State, and, lonization. in the latter case, without their offspring being entitled to the benefit of emancipation, for which

the system provides.

24. The colonization of the free blacks, as they successively arrive, from year to year, at the age entitling them to freedom, I consider a condition absolutely indispensable. Without it, I should be unterly opposed to any scheme of emancipa-tion. One hundred and ninety odd housand blacks, composing about one-tourth of the entire population of the State, with their descendants, could never live in peace, harmony and equality with the residue of the population. The color, passions and prejudices would to ever prevent the two races living together in a state of cordial union. Social, moral and political degr dation would be the inevitable lot of the colored race — Even in the free States (1) use the terms free and slave States not in any sense derogatory from one class, or implying any superiority in the other. but for the sake of brevity) that is their presen severe, it not hatsher than it is in some of the slave Slates. As no where in the United States ion, and that the African descendants should be returned to the native land of their

It will have been seen that the plan I have suggesied, proposes the annual transportation of all born after a specified day upon their arrival at the prescribed age, to the Colony which may be selected for their destination, and the process of transportation is to be continued, until the separation of the two races is completed. If the emancipated slaves were to remain in Kentucky until they attained the age of twenty-eight, it would be about thirty-four years before the first annual transportation began, if the system commence in 1855, and about thirty-nine years, it its

operation began in 1860.
What the number thus to be annually transported would be, cannot be precisely ascertained. I observe it stated by the auditor that the increase of slaves in Kentucky last year was between three and four thousand. But, as that statement was made upon a comparison of the aggregate number of all the slaves in the State without regard to births, it does not, I presume, exhibit truly the natural increase, which was probably larger. The aggregate was effected by the intrduction and still more by the exportation of slaves. I suppose that there would not be less, probably more, than five thousand to be transpor-ted the first year of the operation of the system; but, after it was in progress some years, then

Would it be practicable annually to transport five thousand persons from Kentucky? There cannot be a doubt of it, or even a much large number. We receive from Europe annually emigrants to an amount exceeding two hundred and filly thou-and, at a cost for the passage of about ten dollars per head, and they embark at European ports more distant from the United true that the commercial marine, employed between Europe and the United States affords facilities, in the transportation of emigrants, at that low rate, which that engaged in the commerce between Liberia and this country does not not supply; but that commerce is increasing, and by the time the proposed system, it adopted, would go into operation, it will have greatly augm nie

It there were a cer ainty of the annual transortation of not less than five thousand persons Atrica, it would create a demand for transports, and the spirit of competition would, I have no doubt, greatly diminish the present cost of the passage. That cost has been stated, upon good ter the arrival of the emigrant in Africa. Whatto be transported, the fund to be raised by the hire of the liberated slave, for a period ceeding three years, will be amply sufficient -The annual hire, on the average, may be estima ted at fitty dollars, or one hundred and fitty for

Colonization will be attended with the pain-'ul effect of the separation of the colonists from their parens, and in some instances from their chi dren; but from the later it will be only temporary, as they will follow and be Their separation from their parents will not be until after they have attained a mature age, nor greater than voluntawho leave their parents behind. It will be far less distressing than what frequently occurs in the state of slavery, and will be attended with the animating encouragement, that the colonists are transferred fr. m a land of bondage and degradation for them, to a land of liberty and

equality
An 3d. The expense of transporting the libe ated slave to the colony, and of maintaining him there for six months, I think, ought to be provided for by a fund derived from his labor, in the manner already indicated. He is the party most benefitted by emancipation. It would not be right to subject the non-slaveholder to any part of that expense; and the slavehold r will have made sufficient sacrifices, without being exclusively burthened with taxes to raise tha fund. The emancipated slaves could be hired out for the time proposed, by the Sheriff or other public agent, in each county, who should be subject to strict accountable my. And it would be requisite that there should be kept a regist r of all births of all children of color, after the day fixed for the commencement of the system enforced by appropriate sanctions. It would be a very desirable regulation of law to have the bir hs, deaths and marriages of the whole population of the State registered and preserved, as is done in most well-governed States.

Among other considerations which unite in recommending to the State of Kenincky a system for the gradual applition of slavery is, mad a ising out of her expessed condition affording great facilite to the escape of her stayes into the tree States pleased to express the hope that it will accord riv which some of the stave States have, by be- cept the same. When I accepted a similar no ing covered in depth by two or three slave States interventing between them and free States. She distinctly announced to them my purpose, if has a greater length a forder on free States than elected, to retire from public life at the end of any other slave Star in the Union. That border is the Onio river, extending from the mouth of cumstances should arise to make it proper for the Big Sandusky to be mouth of the Onio, a me to continue. Nothing occurred, which, in distance of near six hundred miles, separating her

Onto, Indiana and Itimors.

Vascountees of staves have field from most Big Sandy to the mouth of the Miami, and the evil has increased a data increasing. Attempts the moorats of Powhatan have again demanded my to recover the fugitives lead to the most painful and irritating collisions. Hisherto countenance and assistance to be fugitives have been chiefly afforded by persons in the State of Ohi; but it is titude, forbid me to decline it, and, under the to be apprehended, from the progressive opposiany rash or so den disturbance in the existing habits of society. 21 That, as an indispenine Starts of Indiana and Illinois. By means of tion to slavery, that, in process of time, similar gentiemen, with sentiments of high respect, sible condition, the emancipated slaves should railroads, Canada can be reached from Cincin- and EDWARD F. BAUGH-Committee.

In the event of a civil war breaking out, or in the more disclud event of a displution of the six months after their arrival at it, should be Union, in consequence of the existence of slavery, defrayed by a fund to be raised from the labor Kina ucky would become the theatre and bear the sell with her known valor and gallantry; but the diate liberation of all the slaves in the State, superiority of the numbers by which she would comprehending both sexes and all ages, from be opposed would lay waste and devastate her that of tender infancy to extreme oid age. It fair fields. Her sister stave States would fly to American Government entertained liberal views would lead to the most frightful and fatal conse- her succor; but, even if they should be successful and would open the American ports to British quences. Any great change in the condition of in the unequal conflict, she never could obtain any society should be marked by extreme care and circumspection. The introduction of slaves into the colonies was an operation of many years gradual abolition of slavery, to separate our member that the Polk Administration would soon duration; and the work of their removal from seves from the other slave States, but continue be succeeded by another party who would not to share with them in all their future formnes. The power of each slave State, within its limits, I think that a period should be fixed when all over the institution of slavery, is absolute, supreme and excusive-exclusive of hat of Con- country! Polk and Bancroft would be succeedgress of that of any other State. The govern- led by Taylor and a new tariff! This explanaperiod, I would suggest, should be 1855 or even ment of cach slave State is bound, by the high-1860; for on this and other arrangements of the est and mest solemn obligations, to dispose of the question of slavery, so as best to promote the peace, hat piness and prosperity of the people tover the world feel alike but they cannot suc-

If, in most of the other States, they find that labor more profitable in the culture of the staples tion of the English Ministry and Mr. Bancroft to we could look forward, with confidence, to the of cotton and sugar, they may perceive a reason open the British coasting trade to our vessels,in that feeling for continuing slavery, which it cannot be expected should control the judgment Whatever may be the day fixed, whether 1855 of Kentuky, as to what may be fiving and proor 1860 or any other day, all born after it, I suggest, should be free at the age of twenty-five, but ry, it would be her duty, and I trust that she have more faith in Yankee enterprize and enerwould be as rea y as she now is to defend the gy, and believe that they can triumphantly comthree years, in order to raise a sum sufficient to and constitutional rights. Her power, political slave States in the enjoyment of all their lawful pay the expenses of their transportation to the Colony and to provide them an outfit for six one hundred and nine y odd thousand slaves, and

ing State, slave labor is less profitable.

I have thus, without reserve, freely expressed be perpetuated instead of being terminated. To my opinion and presented my views. The inter-guard against this consequence, provision might esting subject of which I have treated would made that the off spring of those who were to have admitted of much enlargement, but I have desired to consult brevity. The plan which I have proposed will hardly be accused of being too early in its commencement or too rapid in its operation. It will be more likely to meet with not exceeding three years, for the purpose of contrary reproaches. It adopted, it is to begin raising funds to meet the expense of the Colony thirty-but or thirty-nine years from the time of its adoption, as the one period or the other shall be selected for its commencement. How long a time will it take to remove all the colored race from the State, by the annual transportation of of the slaves, and provided, or her Courts have since interpreted the sys em to mean, that the isascertained. After the system had been in opesue of all who were to be tree at the limited age, ration some years, I think it probable, from the manifest blessings that would follow from it, from the diminished value of slave labor, and from the am endeavoring to sketch, I think all the legal humanity and benenevolence of private individurights of the proprietors of slaves, in their fullest als prompting a liberation of their slaves and their transportation, a general disposition would exist to accelerate and complete the work of co-

That the system will be attended with some sacrifices on the part of slaveholders, which are to be regretted, need not be denied. What great and beneficial enterprise was ever secomplished without risk and sacrifice? But these sacrifices are distant, contingent and inconsiderable. Assuming the year 1-60 for the commencement of the system, all slaves born prior to that time would remain such during heir lives, and the personal loss of the slaveholder would be only the difference in value of born after the first day of January, 1860, should be free at the age of twenty-five, or should be

slaves for life In the meantime, if the right to remove or sell the slave out of the State should be exercised, that triffing loss would not be incurred. The slaveholder, after the commencement of the system, would lose the difference in value condition. In some of these free States the penal between slaves for life, and slaves until the age legislation against the people of color is quie as of twenty five. He might also incur some inof twenty five. He might also incur some in-considerable expense in rearing, from their birth, the issue of those who were to be free at are amalgamation and equality between the two races possible, it is better that there should be a apprenticed out; but as it is probable that they would be most generally bound to him, he woul! receive some indemnity from their services, until they attained their majority.

Most of the evils, losses and mistortunes of human life have some compensation or allevia-tion. The slaveholder is generally a land-hol-der, and I am persuaded that he would find, in the augmented value of his land, some, it not full indemnity for losses arising to him from eman-cipation and colonization. He would also libeally shale in the general benefits, accruing to the whole State, from the extinction of slavery. These nave been so often and so fully stated, that I will not, nor is it necessary to dwell upon them extensively. They may be summed up in a few words. We shall remove from among us the contaminating influences of a servile and degraded race of different color; we shall enjoy he proud and conscious satisfaction of placing that race where they can enjoy the great blessings of liberry and civil, political and social equality; we shall acquire the advantage of the filigence, the fidelity and the constancy of free labor, instead of the carelessness, the infidelity and the unsteadiness of slave labor; we shall levate the character of white labor, and elevate the social condition of the white laborer; and ment the value of our lands, improve the agriculure of the State, attract capital from abroad t all the pursuits of commerce, manufactures and agriculture; redressed, as far and as fast as we productly could, any wrongs which the descent ants of Africa have suffered at our han .s, and we should demonstrate the sincerity with which we pay indiscriminate homage to the great cause of he liberty of the human race.

Kentucky enjoys high respect and honorable consideration throughout the Union and throughout the civilized world; but, in my humble opin ion, no title which she has to the esteem and admiration of mankind, no deeds of her former glory, would equal, in greatness and grandeur, that of being the pioneer State in removing from her soil every trace of human slavery, and in establishing the descendants of Africa, within her jurisdiction, in the native land of their fore

I have thus executed the promise I made, alhappy to have the good fortune of coinciding in opinion with a majority of the people of Kentucky; but, if there be a majority opposed to all schemes of gradual emancipation, nowever much I may regret it, my duty will be to bow in submission to their will.

If it be perfectly certain and manifest that such a majority exists, I should think it better not to agitate the question at all, since that, in that case, would be useless, and might exercise a pernicious collateral influence upon the fair consideration of other amendments which may be proposed to our Constitution. If there be a majority of the people of Kentucky at this time averse to touching the institution of hope that, at some future time, under better auspices, and with the blessings of Providence, the cause which we have so much at heart, may be attended with better success

In any event, I shall have the satisfaction of having performed a duty to the State, to the subject, and to myself, by placing my sentiments permanent y upon record With great regard I am your friend and obe H. CLAY.

dient servant. TO RICHARD PINDELL, Esq.

CORRESPONDENCE. POWHATAN COUNTY, 6th March, 1849. Dear Sir: At a meeting of the Democrats Powhatan, you were unanimously selected as their candidate for re-election at the approach-

We take much pleasure in acquainting you with the wishes of the meeting, and hope that it will accord both with your inclination and convenience to comply with its request.

Very truly yours, JOHN B. HARVIE, JOSEPH A MAYO. EDWARD F. BAUGH, To H. L. HOPKINS, Esq. Committee.

RICHMOND, March 12th, 1-49 Gentlemen: I am in possession of your favor of the 6th instant, apprizing me of my unoni mons comination, by "a meeting of the Democrats of Porchalan, as their candidate for re-election to the pext House of Delegates -- and you are with my 'indination" and 'converience" to ac mination from inv fellow citizens last Fall, 1 my view, made it necessary for me to do so. from the already powerful and growing States of and accordingly, on the 5th of January last, I published my Card, declining a re-election. Two months have elapsed, and upon full consideraservices. I ne ther sought or desired a nomination, but as they have made it of their own titude, forbid me to decline it, and, under the circumstances, I accept it with pleasure. I am. your obedient servant, H. L. HOPKINS. To Messes John B. HARVIF, JOSEPH A. MATO

NATURAL SYMPATHY. During the recent long debate on the Navigation Laws in the British House of Commons Mr. shipping on terms of reciprocity; Mr. Labouchere and they well understood the interest of their that threatens them. I will do more. It tion was loudly cheered by the protectionists.

The friends of privilege and monopoly all of the State. Kentucky being essentially a farm- cossfully resist the march of liberal sentiments. We hall with pleasure this concordant proposi-We can see no force in the objection raised by Mr. Webster that our own vessels will be driven

months after their arrival there.

If the descendants of those who were themselves to be tree at the age of twenty-five, were also to be considered as slaves until they attained the same age, and this rule were continued indefi.

If the descendants of those who were themselves to be tree at the age of twenty-five, were also to be considered as slaves until they attained the same age, and this rule were continued indefi.

If the descendants of those who were themselves to close his public career, has been selected to deliver an oration on the Constitution and laws of the Gommittees of the Gommittees

RICHMOND, VA. are not with us are against us."

Wednesday Morning, March 14, 1849.

MR. CLAY'S PRONUNCIAMENTO. As a matter of public curiosity, and as a gratitying proof of the evils which the country have esenced by deleating the bold, ambitious and reckless statesman of the West, who stops at nothing in pressing his peculiar schemes, we publish at length his late letter from New Orleans. However, at a different period and under differeach year's natural increase, cannot be exactly ent circumstances, such a scheme might have been regarded with favor by leading Southern men, it cannot be denied, that, at the present moment, when the fanatics of the North are moving Heaven and earth to break down the South, this agitation of the subject by Mr. Clay must encourage the Northern Abolitionists in their insane but rejoice that his own Kentucky is opposed to his movement-and this but adds to the mischievous and daring character of his present course .-On the 3d February the Legislature of Kentucky unanimously adopted the following resolution:

people of Kentucky, are opposed to abolition or whatever, except as now provided by the Constitution and laws of the State." The Lexington Observer, a leading Whig or-

gan devoted to Mr. Clay, comes out in strong terms against Mr Clay's letter and says: "It Mr. Clay had been in Kentucky, and fully apprised of public feeling upon this subject, as displayed in the Legislature and elsewhere, he would have made, we think, the concluding part once that he saw no hope of executing his wishes

practicable undertaking. "What effect this document is to have upon he country, remains to be seen. We believe the ject are too strong to be shaken by the potent influence of Mr. Clay's name or the strength of the arguments he may adduce."

The Louisville Journal confirms the accuracy of this reflection of popular sentiment, when it

says: "We must reiterate the expression of our full conviction, that there is not at this time the slightest earthly chance that the State Convention, to be held next fall, will incorporate in the New Constitution a provision for the emancipation of that will send emancipation delegates to the Conwith the most enlightened men members of the Legislature and others, from every county in the State.

A letter from Keatucky in the Union is to the same effect:

"Emancipation is dead in Kentucky beyond he expectation of its greatest opponents -There can be no doubt at all that the course of the abolition party in Congress has led to this result. There is no doubt, either, that it was once quite a strong pary; but until it was seen what the Abolitionists determine to do through the general government, nothing will be done to favor emancipation in the slave States"

It was in the teeth of these unequivocal demonstrations that Mr. Clay wrote and published nis sweeping emancipation letter-which has called from the New York Tribune, a statustic anti slavery paper, a compliment as follows:

"The Loco-Foco Legislators who withheld

from him their votes for Senator on the avowed ground of their hostifity to his Free Soil principles and Emancipation tendencies, for once did him justice in their excus- it not in their deed. Mr. Clay is an advocate of Free Soil-not alone in remote California, but in present Kentucky. He would free the soil of his own loved State tom the blight and curse of Human Slavery His tendencies are in truth toward Liberty, and he does not wait to see how the party will be aftected thereby before proclaiming them. In the luded to in the commencement of this letter, great metropolis of Slavedom he made up his and I hope that I have done it calmly, free from | mind to oppose openly and thoroughly the Annexintemperance, and so as to wound the sensibili- ation of Texas; from that same metropolis his ties of none. I sincerely hope that the question voice again peals through the land, pleading for may be considered and decided, without the in | deliverance to those in bondage-for a new jubifluence of party or passion. I should be most lee of Freedom. It must be heeded and felt,point indicated by them, but we are grateful to whomsoever will impel it forward thus far. It the people of Kenincky shall now decide that Slavery smong them shall not outlast another generation, and that the Slaves may be tree only on condition of their resteration to Africa, a public opinion will soon grow up which will not only cherish the act of Emancipation, but put aside the condition. Whenever the people of Kemucky shall determine to be rid of Slavery, they will find some director way to off of their purpose than by ending all their Slaves off to Africa. But we thank the man who says so much in favor of Emancipation, and in such manner as to disarm the projudices of hundreds "It is the first sep slavery, as it now exists, we, who had thought shat costs," and that Mr. Clay has taken decisive and wished otherwise, can only induge the ly. We trust the pe pie will take care of the re-hope that, at some future time, under better mainder—shortening the interum and decreeing earlier Emancipation without entorced colnization in distant Africa. Courage and Action! friends of impartial Freedom! about to strike-the knell of Bondage to be soun-

This abolision editor shows with what confidence the Northern tanatics rely upon this entering wedge for full and complete abolition, withont any conditions-ruthlessly sacrificing the rights, peace and safety of the slave States, and launching them upon the boisterous sca of agitation and ruin. With the dark cloud that threatens us from the North, we are firmly convinc d, that our only safety is obsta principiis-resis the movement in its birth. It is indeed, "the first step that costs," and once begin under present circumstances, it must induce a most disastrons condition of affairs. We are glad to find in the New Orleans Bulletin, (a leading Whis paper,) an article which so well and so strong w presents these views. The article was published while Mr. Clay was in the city, but before hiletter had transpired. We make a copious ex ract from it, and would remark, that we have specially introduced the evidence of Whig organs, so as to show that party feeling has no thing to do with their denunciation of Mr. Clay's proposition. The Bulletin referring to the unanimous adoption of the above resolution by the Kentucky Legislature, says:

We are glad to see this demonstration on the part of Kentucky. It is significant of the action of the people, who will be represented in Convention, to meet in a few months, for the purp se of amending the State Constitution when the question of slavery will be a main subject of agitation.

The people of Kentucky, when assembled in Convention, will view the subject in the same light with their representatives in the Legisla ture. The Northern Abolition sts have, within the past few months, made such unmistakable indications of their designs, that it would be the height of folly for any of the slave States contiguous to the free States, to hold out any encouragement to this progressive spirit of fa naticism and discord, by assuming a passive or negative character. Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, are what the fanatics of the North regard as promising missionary ground. In consequence of their proximity, they easily incurcate their mischievous decities; and by obstructing, as much as possible, the reclamation of fugitive slaves, an annovance to which these States are, from their situa ion, so continually exposed, they hope to make slaves so wor hiess as property, that their owners will be forced, in self defence, to export them to brunt of the war. She would doubtless defend her- Labouchere stated that he had had a conversa- the States further South, and thus effect abolition tion with the American Minister, Mr. Bancroft, or slavery by force of circumstances, and give respecting certain tree trade measures, and the an accession of five save States to the tree States. It is very possible, that had it been left to the slow but certain operation of time, the object would have been accomplished; they have, It may be urged that we ought not, by the was immediately reminded by a protectionist feated, the consummation of their purposes. The complexion which this subject has assumed, within the last Winter, must have the effect of arousing all the apathetic and wavering of the yield protective duties, as this party were Whige citizens of the South to a sense of the danger show them the necessity of preserving a united 18 fection must evince the truth of these observahousehold; and now upp total and beinous will be the crime of weak-ning the bonds of brother- we have no hesitation in expressing our belief bood, by either passively or actively encouraging that it the people are true to themselves it cannot the assaults of those who openly avow their deweaker than she is there are no fears to be enterrained of our ability to defend ourselves when attacked, provided we are united.

Our position is a defensive one; we are,

the attacks of our assailants.

The simple, but significant resolution of the Legislature of Kentocky, is a model for imitation Let every s ave State, in a formal and deiberate manner, declare "that the people are opposed to the abolition or emancipation of slavery

abroad-for, upon that simple issue, "those who

STATE CREDIT. The following bill, which we find in the Times, proposed by Mr. Stovall, the popular "Chancellor of the Exchequer," passed the House yesierday unanimously. Mr. Stovall urged an unanimous vote in layor of the birl, and said it cal experience, compete with the time-honored leaders of the Whig party. You can see then the danger which surrounds you; supineness or than any measure proposed for twenty years .-He stated that there would be a surplus of \$213,-000, at the end of the present fiscal year. He said it had been ascertained that the James River and Kanawha Company would be fully able to pay its interest, and would not call for the two last instalments of the State loan within the year.

We agree with the Times that "it is a measure which will evince to the world that under ple-that he deprecates party spirit-and would projects. In submitting this letter, we cannot all circumstances and all contingencies this good old State will redeem every dollar of the public

A BILL FOR THE GRADUAL REDEMPTION OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That the act entitled, "an act creating a sinking "Resolved, That we, the representatives of the fund for the redemption of the certificates of the debt of the Commonwealth held by individuals eman ipation of slavery in any form or shape or corporations," passed 10 h March, 1835, be, and the same is hereby, repealed.

2. All the certificates of State Stock pur-

chased by the commissioners of the sinking the interest thereon cease on the 1st of January, 1849. The bonds of the James River and Ka nawha Company, guaranteed by the State, and hereto'ore held by the commissioners of the sinking fund, shall be, and are hereby, transferand vested in, the President and Direcof his letter still stronger, and frankly said at tors of the Board of Public Works, subject to be disposed of as part of the fund for Internal Imnow, and advised his triends to relinquish an im-

3. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars shall be annually set apart and paid over by the warrant of the auditor, to the order of the Beard with the confident trust in your faithfulscalled convictions of the public mind on this sub- of Public Works, to be applied by the Board to the gradual redemption of so much of the pub lie deb: as shall be due or redeemable from time to time. And if, in any year, the funds in the treasury shall be insufficient to supply the said annual appropriation, the Board of Public Works shall be empowered to raise by temporary loan

so much as may be necessary for that purpose
4. In like manner, if the annual appropriation to the gradual redemption of the public debt, be insufficient to redeem any certificates of public debi talling due, and payment thereof be demanded by the holders, the Board of Public Works shall slaves. We do not believe there are ten counties be authorized to raize by temporary loans, on the credit of the commonwealth, so much as may be vention, and our opinion upon this subject has been formed upon free and careful consultation stock so redeemed shall be cancelled and filed in the treasury office of the commonweal h. 5. This act shall be in force from its passage.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

By the last accounts from Spain, we learn that the Spanish Government has declared that no proposition was ever made to them for the annex-York Herald says, this may be all true; yet, "the to make an indirect inquiry of the Spanish ministry, as to their sentiments on the subject of parting with Cuba." It adds:

"But a full account of this affair, from an austic source, will soon be published in this y. It will come from a Southern State; when it does come, Mr. Botts, of Virginia, will lok silly enough. We know what we

retary of Legation in Spain, now in Madrid? "THE LONE STAR." We understand that Mr. J. S. Pendleton lately

despatched an express to his District, to announce him as a candidate for Congress. This looks as if he were not going full minister to Chili.

Mr. Botts has not received that office, though, jumped upon the Taylor Allison platform of the Inaugural as "good enough Whig for him."-Mr. Botts in one of his many "Protests," &c. threatened to tear the "Allison Platform" into fragments. But General Taylor is now Prestdent!

ALEXANDER NEWMAN, ESQ. We have already published a full abstract of the proceedings of the Blacksville Convention, which nominated Mr. Newman for Congress: and we therefore do not deem it necessary, as requested by a friend, to give all the details-especially as our columns are weighed down by other matters. We, however, cheerfully make room for the admirable address of the committee. Mr. N. richly deserves the high honor which has been conferred upon him and we zealously appeal to every Democrat to come up to his aid. We regret to see some signs of disaffection in Marshall county - we trust that the "sober, second thought" will allay their disappointment and urge them to a cordial support of the nominee and their princi-

ples and party. A triend writes: "The Convention was the largest by far and the most gifted body which has ever assembled The Whig party have nom in this District. nated Charles W. Russell, Esq. an associate at the bar in this city. He will canvass the Dis-trict, but we have no fears whatever of the result. We shall elect our nominee by at least five hondred votes."

TO THE VOTERS OF THE 15TH CONGRES-SIONAL DISTRICT.

In view of the importance of the coming con-gressional campaign, and in conformity with the wishes of the late Blacksville Convention, the undersigned beg leave to submit to you, a few considerations in a spirit of entire devotion to the principles which have hitherto governed and held us together. We need not refer to the result of the late Presidential Election. Brough: about by the defection of our own friends it is pregnant with teachings which cannot soon be forgotten. It was decided upon no well defined issues. All the old landmarks of our opponents were disregarded or overthrown; and we beheld the whole Whig party throughout the Union acting upon the advice of the members of that party who were destitute of political integrity, and merging all other considerations in a blind enthusiasm, for a mere military Chieftain. The old and cherished issues of a National Bank, Distribution and a high protective tariff, were postponed for the time being, with the design of oisting in members of Congress from different districts throughout the Union, who would ad vocate in their representative capacity, all these

In a letter which Brownlow of Tennessee, addressed to the Etitors of the Richmond Repub-lican, he made use of this language: "My ado elect Gen. Taylor upon his character, as a nilitary chieffain. Pledged as he is o interpose no veto upon the action of Congress, we can, i is successful, hitch to our traces the old issues of Bank, Tariff and Distribution-make them he lesis in the election of Representatives to the lower House-and effect through them, that goverumental policy, for which the whig party have so long labored." It must therefore be apparent to you, from all that took place previous to the election as well as from all that has taken place since, that in the approaching canvass in this District an attempt will be made to carry out this design. It may for the present be masked. An attempt may, and will no doubt, be made to deceive you with the assurance of no-partyism, and that partiz tu spirit, as hitherto indulged ought to be restrained.

There always has been, there always may be sentimental differences in this country. What right have you to believe that an avowed whig, even it elected with these honeyed professions on his lips, will not be true to his party? Has it not always been so? What is the spectacle which we now witness, after all the professions of Gen. Taylor and his friends? Has not Gen Taylor already selected a Whig cabinet which must if it stands at all, stand on its devotion to Whig principles, which no one dared openly to avow in the last canvass? There is in this matter no medium; those who are not for us, are against us, and there are now in the House of Representatives but two parties, as there always must be. One of the very first acts of General Taylor's admin-We do not condemn it in advance-but

stant; such a cutions piece of Mosaic work, so about it to render it permanent or command the approval of the American people In Virginia we stand in an attitude peculiarly

important. She has never faltered. This dismoreover, the weaker party, and we are to rely trict has never faltered, and it never can as long upon the justice of our cause, and our united and as we continue joined together. Against such a concentrated moral force, to resist successfully result as we have indicated we warn you. We abjure you to suffer no soft pledges to swerve you from the path of your duty. Are you prepared to have any part either directly or indirectly, in the election of a Whig representative who will east his whole influence and his vote in

strength at home, and the measure of sympathy | tucky, and goes into the field of his old labor, to | mittee who had reported upon the subject, he had carry out his long cherished political policy.— made up his mind to submit to the decision of the Mr. Clay will be the actual President. He and this body without opposition, and throw himself his friends will control the legislation of Con- upon his State to sus ain him. If they abandon. gress. He will shape its measures. However honest General Taylor may be, he must be con- for office in these United States. tent to fellow not to lead. He dare not veto any act. His cabinet will be Whig-he has himself

inactivity on your part, stiffes your voicethrows your principles in abeyance for years-it may be, torever. Elect a Whig, and Whig principles to the extent of his vote, are fastened upon this district .-What confidence can you place in the professions of that man who comes before you now, with his hands upon his lips ready to swear, that although a Whig he is a man of the peobe governed in his action by what he believes to be the good of the whole? Are not such men, now, have they not heretofore been, among the most violent of your opponents? What change

then, but one to mislead, to misrepresent you, could actuate such sentiments? What safety have you under such circumstances? Look, then, to yourselves-look to your own partyto your own men, for counsel and for guide -We present you with a man whom you have long known-who has never faltered-who stands now, where he has always stood, in defence of that political creed which comes home fund, shall be, and are hereby, cancelled, and to our business and our bosoms. He is honest, capable and firm. His whole course for years attests his devotion to your interests. It was seen, in his service as a member of the Senate of Virginia-it was seen in his votes as a delegate from the county of Marshall. It is an old and familiar name to many of you. Scan his acts; they court your scrutiny, they must demand your admiration. Need we ask for him your support? Need we bespeak for him your votes? We do not so far mistrust ourselves, nor and with the confident trust in your faithfulness to yourselves, and to him, we yield now, to no other thought, than the one which prompts an anticipation of a victory as brilliant on our

> fatal to you, would be a peculiar glory to them. NATHAN H. TAFT, of Barbonr, J. L. GRAY, of Hancock, SHERRARD CLEMENS, of Ohio,

UNITED STATES SENATE. [Reported for the Baltimore Sun.] Washington, March 12. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Slicer. Journal of Fri-

day read.

Mr. Webster rose, and stated that he desired to occupy, for a few moments, the attention of the Senate, and presented the following resolu-

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested, if not in his judgment ination of Cuba to the United States. The New compatible with the public interests, to transmit

to the Senate any instruction which may have American Government instructed their minister | been given to the minister of the United States in London, offering a further extension of reciprocity and equality, in the laws of navigation, and especially such instructions, if any, as contemplate the opening of the coasting trade of the United States, to the ships and vessels of other nations. Mr. Webster remarked, that from a telegraphic despatch received from Halifax, it ap-

peared that information had been received there by the steamer, that our Minister in London De 's it refer to Mr. T. C. Reynolds, late Sechad expressed his readiness to enter into such an arrangement with the British Government, as would open the entire coasting trade to the vesse's of both nations. His object in offering the present resolution, Mr. W. said, was to call the attention of the country to this very important subject. The information called for, could as the President might deem expedient. He nust confess for himself, that he had been a litto judge by the sneers of the Whig, he has the startled at the annunciation that our Minister, now in England, had offered to open a negotiation which might throw open our whole coasting trade to the vesse's of both countries. If such an arrangement was entered into with England, we would be bound to extend the same privileges hereafter to Northern Europe, (Brenen, Ac.,) also.

It would be well, continued Mr. Webster, to resort to experience to ascertain the effect of open-ing this trade in the northern parts of Europe, and o see how far our commercial marine might be at tected thereby. The coasting trade was very much of the basis of our commercial marine. If this trade were thus opened, merchandise would be as freely carried to our possessions on the Pacific, not only around the Cape, but across the Isthmus, in British as in American vessels. That our minister had been authorized to open a negotiation calculated to uproot a system of sixty years duration demanded at ention, and he had therefore offered the resolution, of which, if no objections were made, he should ask the consideration to-day. It bjection, however, was made, it must of course ie on the table until to-morrow No objection being made the resolution was

adopted. Mr. Mason had leave to withdraw the of Mrs. Ann Chase, with the view, he said, of neir submission to the board of commissioners in the Mexican claims. A message was received from the President of

vate secretary, understood to be nominations for some twenty or thirty vacancies existing and about to occur, among which I understand, are Justices of the Peace for the District of Columbia; Mr. Loyal, naval officer at Nortolk, ie ar-pointed; Paimer V. Kellogg, in place of Jacob Gould, marshal of the Western District of New York; Gov. Gayle, representative in the last Congress, Judge of the District Courts of the United States for Alabama; Charles Hudson, a repre-sentative in the las Congress from Massachu-

Setts naval officer of the port of Boston.

The Senate went immediately into Executive ession, referred to the appropriate committee the cominations sent in, and then adjourned [The select committee on Gen. Shields' eligiit y, it is understood, have completed the riepor, which will be presented to morrow, and, i said, is against him !

UNITED STATES SENATE. [Reported for the Baltimore Sun ] WA-BINGT IN, March 13, 1819. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Slicer. Journal es enday read.

Mr. Mason, from the select committee to who

was referred the certificate of election of the ho-totable James Shields to a sent in this body, with structions to inquire into the eligibility of the aid James Shields to such seat-reported, That having given due notice to said Shields. e appeared b-fore them, and they took the sub-

ri meo consideration. They farther report that the said certificate of election declares that the said James Shields was thosen a Senator of the United States by the Legislature of the State of Illinois, on the 18th day of January last-that it further appears and is admitted by the said James Shields that he is an alien by birth, and the only proof before the committee of the naturalization of the said Shields in the United States, is contained in the copy of a certificate of naturalization in the Circuit Court of Effingham county, in the said State of Illinois, which is annexed to and made part of this report, by which certificate it appears that he said James Shields was admitted Court a cit zen of the United States on the 21st day of October, 1840. The commutee therefore report the following resolution: Resolved, That the election of James Shields

o be a Senator of the United States, was void, he not having been a citizen of the United States the term of years required as a qualification to be Mr. Mason stated that the committee had seve

ral days since been prepared to report, and had then addressed a letter to Gen. Shields, through their chairman, stating that they were ready to receive any communication which he might desire to make, or to afford him any further time which he might require. They met again the next day, but no communication was received. Yesterday, however, it was ascertained that General Shields had sent a communication, but, from accident it had not reached them. They had therefore further postponed until to-day the making of their report, but Gen. Shields had not deemed it advisable to make any communication. The report and resolution having been read-

Gen. Shields rose and said, that this might be the only occasion which he should ever to address this honorable body. The ob-The objection to his elegibility originated in his b dy. He had no competitor from his State to contest his right to a seat. He had there an bonorable competitor signs of destroying our p-culiar institutions. ingeniously put together, may dazzle the eye for Were the South numerically and physically a moment, but there is not sufficient conesion. Legislature. Nothing, he had reason to believe, would have induced that gentleman to come here and contest his right to a seat in this body. Nor had there been any communication from Illinois expressing doubt as to his eligibility, though he had a large party there opposed to him, and of course enemies in his own party. There could not be found five men in Illinois who would present here a memorial to reject him from his seat, on the ground of ineligibility.

He had been in the State Legislature, a Judge Commissioner in the General Land Office, a General in the Army, for three days Governor favor of those measures of the Whig party of Oregon, all requiring naturalization, and yet the question of eligibility had never yet teen rai-

ed him, he should never present himself again The committee had acted upon the evidence declared that he is a Whig, but not an ultra could have explained, but as he had already been Whig; and he never can with his limited politi-

before them-they could not act otherwise. He guilty of an error in a letter to a gentleman of this body, and he contessed his wrong. When a gentleman called on him, and referred to the injudicious construction of which that letter was susceptible, he had immediately authorized him withdraw it. Before this body, and before God, he disavowed the construction given to tha letter. He was incapable of such a thought, of a menace of assassination. He would call on every citizen of the United

States to repel such an imputation. He would call on the gentieman himself, between whom and that gentleman's brother-in-law he had thrust his own body to save him from the consequences of an imputed crime against the domestic peace of that brother-in-law. He was now reaping the effects of his own indiscretion; and he had made up his mind to submit unresistingly to the decision of this body-to go home and appeal to his own State to reinstate him.

Mr. Turney was not satisfied with the report of the committee, and argued at leng achat the constitution does not require that a perhave been nine years a citizen before his election, but only before he shall take his seat. Mr. Foote was in favor of postponing turber

action until the next session, and moved a post ponement of the resolution until the first Monday in December.

Mr. Mason addressed the Senate at considerable length, in explanation of the views of the committee. In the case of Mr. Gailatin, in 1791,

it appeared from the journal that he came to his country in 1780, before the close of the war, and before the constitution of the United States had been adopted. He resided in several States until October, 1785, when he swore allegiance to the State of Virginia. He then removed to Pennsylvania

and became a permanent resident of that State. In 1788 he was elected to the Convention which tramed the Constitution, and was several times; member of the State Legislature. In 1793 he was elected to the Senate of the United States. -Dating from October, 1785, he had not been nine years a citizen of the United States, when in Fe ruary, 1793, he was elected to the United States Senale, but he had in December, 1793, when he took his seat. These facts were set forth at the time-the committee appointed on the subject re por ed the facts to the Senate without the expres sion of any opinion, and unaccompanied with any resolution.

In the Secate a resolution was offered that A bert Gallatin was duly qualified and this resolution was rejected, 12 to 14. A resolution was then introduced declaring that the election of Albert Gallatin was void, he not having been a citizen of the United States the term of years becessary to quality him for a seat in the Senate of the United States. This was adopted, 14 to 12, and the resolution now reported by the committee is an exact copy of that.

Mr. Douglass addressed the Senate at som

length in detence of Gen. Shields' eligibility, contending that in the case of Mr. Gallatin the oath of allegiance in Virginia was not considered as naturalization by the Senate. Mr. Focte also addressed the Senate at length

in support of his motion to postpone, and in detence of Gen. Shields Mr. Berrien said that the course indicated by the Senator of Illinois was one honorable to him-

self. But so long as the Senator continues to ec

cupy his seat here, the Legislature of Illinois can do nothing—until their election is declared void, they can take no steps in the case—and delay to set, therefore, on the part of this body, he thought would obstruct rather than promote the object desired. The course indicated by the Senator from Illinois himself, he thought the true one-to again go before the Legislature of his State and lay the whole subject before them. Mr. Douglass was not prepared to say that the Legislature of Illinois had performed a void act. He contended that though it was necessary under be furnished at the present or the next session, the Constitution that a member of this body shall

be thirty years of age at the time of taking his seat, it did not require that he should be so at the time of his election. So also in the present case. The Constitution says that "no one shall be a member who is not thirty years of age, has been line years a citizen of the United States, and an inhabitant of the State at the time I his election." He cited several cases, that of Mr. Clay, who was elected at the age of twenty nine year to prove that such had been the construction gien to the Constitution heretolore. He argued that the Senator from

(Mr. Mason) was misraken in supposing that a contrary construction was given in the Galiana case. He would be better pleased to see the case postponed. No inconvenience would result thererom, as the next regular session of the Hilling Legislature does not take place uptil a year from next January, though an extra session may be held next Winter Nor, under the precedents established, has the Governor of that State the new er to fill a vacancy of this description. He de nied their right to distranchise a State until year from January next, or to put them to the expense of an extra session. By postponemen hey would have time to determine the question of eligibility, after a full consideration of all the

Mr. Webster held most incontestibly that the election was void. The Constitution require that he should be eligible as a Senator for six years from the 4th of March-and it migh with just as much propriety be said that be he United States by the hand of Col. Bliss, pribeen eight years. His object in rising, how ever, was to move as the resolution was like to give rise to further debate, that the subjecbe postponed until to-morrow. The motor prevailed, and the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business

[The nominations yesterday sent in were: to day confirmed; and just before the termina tion of the d bate to day on the question of 6 neral Shields' eligibility, another message wareceived from the President by the hand of Co. Birss, making sundry other nominations, chief unimportant, and relating to the customs, we the exception of Mr. Evans of Maine, Payne of North Carolina, and Mr. Caleb Smith of Indiana, as the Board of Comm sioners on Mexican claims. Adjourned

Correspondence of the Baltim re Sun. WASHINGT N, March 13, 1849 Importan Appointments - Mr. Webster for Ex land - Disapp intments for Office Se ke s. . The names of the gentlemen confirmed by various if fires nominated by the Presiden, no doubt, been telegraphed to you, so would be needless for me to repeat them. est important among them, are George b of Maine; Caleb B. Smith, of Indiana, and Payne of N. Carolina, Commissioners of M.

The question has been raised whether Evans will accept; but of this, I think the hardly be a doubt. Mr. Evans' talents mosuredly enti le him to the highest office un g vernmen; but he will lose nothing by here on the spot, and taking advantage first favorable breeze that may spring up Mr. Webster is now talked about as M to England, which would be a prudent more than one respect; especially if Mr could be induced, at the same time, to France. In old France it was customar? red of troublesome statesmen by making Dukes, in the U. States, troublesome state have often been sent abroad to facilitate

ganization of parties at home. My opinion is that, not withstanding the g ing impatience of needy office scekers, at calumnies heaped on those still retained, a movals of any consequence will be made 1. There will be no change in the personal the State Department.

[The rumor of Mr. Stubbs' removal was go merely for the purpose of injuring him.
Stubbs had nothing to do with the informative given to Mr. Charles J Ingersoll, in regarding secret service money used by Mr. Weber; part of the scandalous business being done by Nicholas P. Trist, Mr. Stubbs merely acid a subordinate !

2. No quiet, good business Clerk will moved from any department of the govern 3. No indiscrimiente oaslaught will be Postmasters or Collectors.

4. No Foreign Minister will be appoint

ore the end of the fiscal year, i.e. June 30 h 5. No consular appointments will be mail til then, so that invalids, in search of climates, will have to wait for the "dog day 6. No important appointment will be ma

all while the S-nate is in session So there will be no general wailing and General Taylor continue as he has began ministration, though not exactly admired tessional politicians, who, like caterpillars on the tree that begot them, will be deci popular with the great mass of the people.

"THE LONE STAR," ONCE MORE The following from the Union, we have son to believe, is correct: "The report in Washington is, that the

dent declines sending Mr. Pentleton to Cellitainly for the present, upon the alleged and that Virginia has foreign missions e this time. The consequence is, a turne that Mr. Pendleton will take a poll in doun Congressional District, which is ed to be torn to pieces by the Whigs-